

KESWICK
URBAN SANITARY DISTRICT.

Annual Report of M.O.H.

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REPORT

THE

CER OF HEALTH,

YEAR 1936,

WITH

Work done by the

Inspector.

KESWICK :

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1937.


**KESWICK
URBAN SANITARY DISTRICT.**



ANNUAL REPORT

**OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,
FOR THE YEAR 1936,**

**WITH
Summary of Work done by the
Sanitary Inspector.**



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REPORT OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR, 1936.

TO THE KESWICK URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour of presenting my Report upon the health of your District for the year 1936.

The arrangement of this Report is drawn up on the lines suggested by the Ministry of Health.

SECTION A.

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area (in acres), 1,271·995.

Registrar-General's Estimate of the Resident Population,
4,490.

Number of Inhabited Houses (end of 1936)
according to the Rate Books, 1,348.

New Houses erected, 22. Houses demolished, 2.

Rateable Value, £33,149.

Sum represented by a Penny Rate, £132 6s. 7d.

		Males.	Females.
Live Births	{ Legitimate	18	29
	{ Illegitimate	3	—
		—	—
Total		21	29

Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated Resident
Population, 11.13.

		Males.	Females.
Still Births	{ Legitimate	1	2
	{ Illegitimate	—	—
Total		1	2

Rate per 1,000 (Live and Still) Births, 56.6.

	Total.	Males.	Females.
Deaths.	69	36	33

Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated Resident
Population, 13.

Puerperal Sepsis, 0. Other Puerperal Causes, 0.

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age :—

All Infants per 1,000 live births,	40
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births,	21.2
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births,	333.3

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	5
„ Measles „	2
„ Whooping Cough (all ages)	0
„ Diarrhœa (under 2 years of age)	0

The Deaths of 36 Males and 33 Females were due to :—
Heart Disease, 16 ; Cerebral Hæmorrhage, 11 ; Cancer, 5 ;
Other Circulatory Diseases, 7 ; Pneumonia, 4 ; Bronchitis,
1 ; Peptic Ulcer, 1 ; Measles, 2 ; Diabetes, 3 ; Premature
Birth, 1 ; Acute and Chronic Nephritis, 1 ; Senility, 2 ;
Other Violence, 3 ; Other Defined Diseases, 11 ;
Ill-defined Causes, 1.

Comparisons of the Keswick Urban District with the County of Cumberland and with the country generally is interesting.

Keswick has a low Birth Rate and a comparatively high Death Rate.

Both these rates are accounted for to a large extent by the high average age of the population of Keswick, containing as it does, a large proportion of elderly people.

The Urban District has a very low Infant mortality, and no Maternal mortality, and compares very favourably with other parts of the country.

It was not found necessary to open the Infectious Diseases Hospital at Whinlatter during 1936—a fact which, in conjunction with the small numbers admitted there in previous years, should make you in favour of a centralised Hospital for Infectious Diseases, if only on grounds of economy alone.

SECTION B.

I. No change has taken place in the Public Health Staff.

II. (a) Laboratory facilities for the examination of specimens, *e.g.*, Throat Swabs for Diphtheria, Blood for Typhoid, and Sputum for Tubercle bacilli, are very efficiently carried out by the Cumberland Pathological Laboratory.

(b), (c), (d), (e). Ambulance, Nursing and Hospital facilities remain the same.

SECTION C.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SANITARY
INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR 1936.

To the Medical Officer of Health.

DEAR SIR,

The following is a Summary of Work carried out in my Department during the year 1936.

MILK SAMPLING.

The number of samples taken was 16. These were forwarded to the Cumberland Pathological Laboratory, Carlisle, for examination.

- (a) Bacteria Count.
- (b) Presence of Coliform Bacilli.
- (c) For inoculation (Tubercle Bacilli).

In one case, a positive result for Tubercle Bacilli was received. The milk in question was produced in the Cockermouth Rural District and only purveyed in the Urban District by the Producer himself.

The case was followed up by the County Veterinary Officer, and a cow at the Farm concerned, was found to be suffering from Tuberculosis of the udder. The cow died and was disposed of by burial.

Of the 16 Samples taken, 5 were from Producers and Purveyors within the Urban District, and 11 from Producers in the Cockermouth Rural District, but Purveyors in the Urban District.

Four of the Five Samples taken from Producers in the Urban Area were satisfactory regarding Bacteria Count, but only two concerning the presence of Coliform Bacilli.

All proved negative to the Animal Inoculation Test.

Seven of the eleven Samples produced in the Rural District were satisfactory as regards Bacteria Count, but only five concerning the presence of Coliform Bacilli.

In each case, a copy of the findings was immediately forwarded to the Medical Officers of Health and to the Producers and Purveyors concerned.

WATER SUPPLY.

This essential service has again been satisfactory, both quality and quantity.

Again, some of the older cast iron mains have been substituted by spun iron pipes with concrete lining. Further work in this direction is to be undertaken during 1937.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

The Purification Works have been satisfactory, and the Pumping Plant installed during the previous year has again worked very satisfactorily.

With the exception of the laying of a 9-inch Sewer Pipe at the Brigham Housing Estate, no extensions of any moment have been made during the year under review.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

The arrangement made the previous year with a local firm for the supply on hire of a motor lorry upon which the Council fixed a properly covered body, was continued during the year under review.

A new horse drawn vehicle, made with proper coverings, was also purchased by the Council.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES.

No change from previous year.

BAKEHOUSES.

No change. One notice for Lime-washing was promptly attended to.

HOUSING.

By the end of the year, none of the new houses at Brigham Estate were occupied. Arrangements were made with the present Contractors for the erection of a further 10 houses, making 24 in all.

Progress in the erection of houses has been slow during the year.

The New Year, however, showed a marked improvement, and it is expected during 1937, that a good many houses will be completed and occupied.

INSPECTION.

Premises inspected during the year	152
Nuisances and Defects found	131
Those remedied after Formal Notice	16
Those remedied after Informal Notice	92

JAMES JENKINS,

Sanitary Inspector.

SECTION D.

1. *Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year :—*

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	103
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	126
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses included under sub-head (1) above which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	52
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	69
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	20
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	51

2. *Remedy of Defects during the year without Service of Formal Notices :—*

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers...	16
--	----

3. *Action under Statutory Powers during the year :—*

A.—Proceedings under sections 17, 18 and 23 of the Housing Act, 1930 :—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ...	6
---	---

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—

(a) By owners	6
(b) By local authority in default of owners	...			0

B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied 10

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—

(a) By owners	10
(b) By local authority in default of owners	...			0

C—Proceedings under sections 19 and 21 of the Housing Act, 1930 :—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made 1

(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders 0

D.—Proceedings under section 20 of the Housing Act, 1930 :—

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made 0

(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit 0

Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

1—INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS & WORKPLACES

Premises.	Inspection.	Written Notice.	Occupiers prosecuted
Factories (including Factory Laundries)	20	1	0
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries)	22	8	0
Workplaces	0	0	0
	—	—	—
Total ...	42	9	0

2—DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Particulars.	Number of Defects.		Referred to H.M. Inspector.	Number of Prosecutions
	Found.	Remedied.		
Sanitary Accommodation unsuitable or defective ...	10	10	0	0
	—	—	—	—
Total ...	10	10	0	0

SECTION F.

GENERAL.

The incidence of Notifiable Disease (other than Tuberculosis) during the year 1936 is set out in the following form :—

Disease.	Total Cases notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Smallpox ...	0	0	0
Scarlet Fever ...	1	0	0
Diphtheria ...	0	0	0
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	0	0	0
Puerperal Fever ...	0	0	0
Puerperal Pyrexia...	0	0	0
Pneumonia ...	7	0	4
Erysipelas ...	3	0	0

TUBERCULOSIS.

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1936.

Age Periods.	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Respiratory.		Non- Respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non- Respiratory.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0								
1								
5								
15								1
25								
35								
45								
55								
65 and upwards				1				

There were only two cases of Tuberculosis notified during the year. No deaths occurred during the year from Tuberculosis.

We are again indebted to Mr. Tom Wilson for the time and trouble, voluntarily given, as Meteorological Observer, and for his comprehensive report which is appended.

Your obedient servant,

J. M. NORMAN,

Interim Medical Officer of Health.

METEOROLOGICAL STATION.

Height above Sea Level, 254ft.

Lat. 54° 36' N.

Long. 3° 9' W.

RETURNS FOR 1936.

RAINFALL.				SUNSHINE.		
	AMOUNT.	DAYS.	GREATEST FALL ON ONE DAY.	Average 34 years	AMOUNT. HOURS.	Average 34 years.
Jan.	7.23	on 19	1.68 on 9th	6.26	35.0 on 12	35.5
Feb.	3.38	„ 13	.53 „ 23rd	4.56	77.8 „ 21	53.7
Mar.	2.29	„ 19	.64 „ 29th	4.04	39.7 „ 19	100.6
April	.97	„ 11	.36 „ 24th	3.04	177.8 „ 28	129.9
May	1.12	„ 9	.54 „ 24th	3.26	218.7 „ 29	175.3
June	3.75	„ 11	.95 „ 3rd	3.11	169.2 „ 26	179.9
July	6.63	„ 23	1.49 „ 24th	4.18	110.7 „ 29	163.6
Aug.	1.70	„ 12	.39 „ 18th	5.10	151.2 „ 25	141.2
Sept.	6.90	„ 15	1.10 „ 24th	4.33	89.5 „ 23	127.2
Oct.	6.72	„ 17	2.40 „ 24th	6.59	80.1 „ 21	81.0
Nov.	6.37	„ 20	.80 „ 9th	5.51	42.1 „ 16	49.7
Dec.	9.10	„ 20	2.32 „ 13th	6.78	22.0 „ 12	25.4
Totals	56.16	„ 189		56.52	1213.8 „ 261	1263.3

TEMPERATURES.

	HIGHEST MAXIMUM (in shade).	LOWEST MINIMUM (in shade).	LOWEST MINIMUM (on grass)	Nights Frost.	Wind at gale force.	Snow lying.
Jan.	51.0 „ 11th	22.0 on 15th	16.0 on 17th	14	F	10
Feb.	51.0 „ 18th	13.0 „ 13th	10.0 „ 13th	15	—	6
Mar.	64.0 „ 22nd	26.0 „ 3rd	20.0 „ 3rd	6	—	—
April	57.0 „ 30th	25.0 „ 17th	18.0 „ 17th	15	—	—
May	68.0 „ 26th	36.0 „ 28th	29.0 „ 28th	3	—	—
June	83.0 „ 21st	41.0 „ 1st	29.0 „ 5th	1	—	—
July	69.0 „ 1 & 6	46.0 „ 27th	38.0 „ 23rd	—	—	—
Aug.	76.0 „ 29th	42.0 „ 7th	36.0 „ 7th	—	—	—
Sept.	70.0 „ 22nd	34.0 „ 29th	29.0 „ 29th	1	—	—
Oct.	64.0 „ 4th	30.0 „ 7th	25.0 „ 6th	8	—	—
Nov.	54.0 „ 2nd	25.0 „ 2nd	20.0 „ 22nd	10	—	—
Dec.	55.0 „ 17th	28.0 „ 9 & 10	16.0 „ 7th	10	3	1
				83	4	17

EARTH TEMPERATURES.					WIND.				
	Highest, 1ft.	Lowest, 1ft.	Highest, 4ft.	Lowest, 4ft.	Calm.	North Quadrant.	South Quadrant.	East Quadrant.	West Quadrant.
Jan.	42.0	34.6	43.5	40.8	10	4	13	1	3
Feb.	38.4	34.0	40.5	39.3	12	3	12	2	—
Mar.	46.0	37.3	43.0	39.5	6	4	14	5	2
April	47.0	40.8	44.3	43.0	7	9	8	—	6
May	55.5	47.0	50.3	44.3	11	6	9	3	2
June	63.1	52.0	53.8	50.0	11	3	10	1	5
July	62.5	57.5	57.0	54.5	13	—	6	—	12
Aug.	62.2	57.0	57.8	56.5	15	1	3	3	9
Sept.	62.0	53.0	58.8	57.0	18	1	5	—	6
Oct.	54.0	45.8	57.0	51.5	15	3	3	1	9
Nov.	47.7	37.7	52.0	46.9	15	2	7	—	6
Dec.	44.0	37.0	46.5	44.2	9	5	8	2	7
Totals					142	41	98	18	67

ABNORMAL PRECIPITATION.

November 2nd and 3rd, 1931, 6.61 inches in 36 hours
 November 3rd, 1931, 4.86 ,,
 November 4th, 1926, 3.32 ,, in 9½ hours
 December 24th, 1924, 3.50 ,,
 August 2nd, 1923, 3.00 ,,
 December 14th, 1902, 3.12 ,,
 July 13th, 1932, 2.56 ,, in 5 hours

SUNDRY NOTES FOR 1936.

Thunder heard on 8 days.
 Lightning observed on 8 days.
 Thunderstorm with precipitation, 5 days.
 Visibility less than 1,100 yards, 2 days.
 More than 1 inch of rain fell on 7 days.
 More than 2 inches of rain fell on 2 days.
 Greatest fall of rain, 2.40 inches on October 23rd.

THE WEATHER OF 1936.

January was cold. A gale on the 9th did much structural damage and many trees were uprooted. In addition 1·68in. of rain fell. In the middle of the month a spell of frost gave us two days' skating, and snow lay in the valley for 10 days.

February brought more snow and frost; a few days' skating was enjoyed on the Lake. After a spell of wet weather, more snow fell and again the valley was covered. Snow and sleet showers for several days closed the month.

March opened with a cold snap—frost, sleet and snow. The remainder of the month was of a showery type and fairly cloudy.

April proved fine and dry, if somewhat cold. The hills were covered with snow on occasions, and there was a goodly spell of frost.

May was fine, dry, and rather cold. Sunshine was plentiful, and the Lake was at a very low level.

June was rather showery; it gave us a fine spell and the warmest day of the year—83° in the shade—on the 21st. The Lake was very low and reached a level $1\frac{1}{2}$ ins. below the mark of 1887.

July opened with a Thunderstorm, and several parts of the town were flooded, owing to the drains being unable to cope with the surface water. The month proved wet and during Convention Week (Friday, July 24th) we experienced a storm which damaged the Tents.

August, though showery during the first fortnight, was fine and fairly warm.

September gave us a Thunderstorm on the 3rd, and in half-an-hour, .45ins. of rain fell. Again there were floods in the yard and streets, owing to surface water. Next day it was repeated, and on the 14th, the streets were flooded again. There were two spells of fine warm weather.

October commenced with a spell of 12 fine warm days, followed by a wet cold spell with hail and sleet.

November commenced badly with a fortnight of wet cold weather, followed by a spell of frost. From the 19th to 27th we had a spell of 9 consecutive fine days, and though practically the whole country was fogbound our valley was free, though on two days visibility was at times only about 1,100 yards.

December proved wet, cold and wild; the 13th gave us 2.32 inches of rain, a flood and a gale. Christmas Day and Boxing Day were probably the best days of the month. The last few days were warmer.

TOM. WILSON, F.R.Met.Soc.,
Official Observer to Meteorological Office.

“Maymyo,” Crosthwaite, Keswick.

